

Rules and Regulations for Rock Meadow (June 22, 2023)

Rock Meadow is managed by the Belmont Conservation Commission on behalf of the many users of the property. The property is a passive recreational facility, intended to serve as a regional recreational feature. Mowed paths are provided within the meadow to encourage access to the property, and we urge you to stay on the paths. Paths are mowed to protect visitors from ticks and poison ivy, which are common in the un-mowed areas. Visitors are encouraged to stay on the paths in both the meadow and wooded areas of the property. Leashed dogs are allowed at Rock Meadow, and owners are required to bag dog waste and dispose of it properly. A dog waste receptacle is available at the Mill Street Parking Lot.

The Commission encourages passive recreational activities, including but not limited to: Leaf Peeping; Nature Study; Bird Watching; Photography; Walking; Running; Photography and Biking. The following Rules and Regulations are promulgated to ensure the enjoyment of the natural environment provided by the seventy-acre public conservation land. Have Fun!

1.0 Prohibited Activities

- 1.01 Be in or upon the land during the time period between ½ hour after sunset and ½ hour before sunrise, unless carrying a permit from the Conservation Commission.
- 1.02 Other than in the Mill Street Parking Area, operate a motorized vehicle, including without limitation any motor vehicle or motorized bicycle as defined in section 1 of Chapter 90 of the General Laws and any recreational vehicle or snow vehicle as defined in section 20 of chapter 90B and any bicycle or scooter powered by any engine, except those vehicles used for law enforcement or permitted maintenance are authorized to operate on land. Class 2 electric bicycles are expressly prohibited.
- 1.03 Ride, lead or drive any horse, pony, mule or donkey.
- 1.04 Possess any alcoholic beverage, whether sealed or open.
- 1.05 Set up a tent or other structure of any kind, without the express written permission of the Conservation Commission
- 1.06 Kindle, or increase a fire, whether or not in a contained area or receptacle.
- 1.07 Hunt, trap or shoot any bird or animal.
- 1.08 Use fireworks or explosive devices, discharge any firearm, air gun, paintball gun, or similar device or use a bow and arrow, slingshot or similar device, or throw stones, sticks or other missiles.
- 1.09 Use of drones, remote controlled flying aircraft, rockets and planes.
- 1.10 Remove, cut or damage any flowers, plants, shrubs, trees, soil, water, artifacts or rocks, including without limitation the removal of fallen trees, and any digging or excavation without the express permission of the Conservation Commission. (Community Gardens are exempt).
- 1.11 Remove or injure or disturb any bird or animal.
- 1.12 Ride a bicycle, other than upon designated trails, except for a law enforcement officer, nor ride a bicycle in an unsafe manner.
- 1.13 Drop, throw or place and allow to remain any litter, garbage or other refuse except in such receptacles as may be provided, nor dispose of any lighted match or smoking materials.
- 1.14 Disposal of household, commercial or industrial trash in, and or around, any receptacles that may be provided for refuse.

- 1.15 Unleashed dogs. Dogs must be leashed, and dog waste must be picked up and disposed of in an appropriate receptacle. Failure to leash or comply with sections 20.10.7 through 20.10.10 of the General By-Laws of the Town of Belmont with regard to dog feces will result in individual fines for EACH unleashed dog or waste event. Fines may be up to \$300 dollars per offense, per dog.
- 1.16 More than two (2) leashed dogs per person, unless they are licensed at the same address.
- 1.17 Place or post any sign or advertising without the express permission of the Conservation Commission.
- 1.18 Commit any disorderly act, disturb the peace, or behave in such a manner as to interfere with the rightful enjoyment of the public to quiet and peaceful conservation land.

2.00 Enforcement Authorized

- 2.01 Any enforcing person (such as, but not limited to: Animal Control Officer; Conservation Commission Agent; Police Officer) taking cognizance of a violation of these rules may require the violator to provide his or her name and address. No person shall refuse or fail to provide their name and address upon request of an enforcing person.
- 2.02 Any enforcing person taking cognizance of a violation of these rules, or having cause to believe any crime has been committed, may order the violator to leave the conservation land immediately, and remain off of the conservation land for a period of 24 hours. No person, upon receiving such order, shall refuse or fail immediately to leave the conservation land, or having left, no person shall enter the conservation land before the 24-hour period has expired.

3.00 Penalties

- 3.01 Any violations of these rules shall be punishable by a fine of \$100 dollars (unless otherwise stated), except that in the event that the enforcing person issues a notice to appear in accordance with the non-criminal disposition procedure authorized by Town of Belmont General By-Laws 29.4.2, the fines for each offense shall be \$50.